OIPE JC139
MAY 13 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

DRW

00839.000469. PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SOICHIRO KAWAKAMI, ET AL.

Application No.: 10/682,454

Filed: October 10, 2003

For: DETECTING METHOD AND DETECTING APPARATUS FOR DETECTING INTERNAL OF RECHARGEABLE BATTERY, RECHARGEABLE BATTERY PACK HAVING SAID DETECTING APPARATUS THEREIN, PROGRAM IN WHICH SAID DETECTING METHOD IS INCORPORATED, AND MEDIUM IN WHICH SAID PROGRAM IS STORED

Date: May 12, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

(1) JP 7-240235
(2) JP 9-134742
(3) JP 2002-50410
(4) JP 2002-142379

(5) U.S. Patent No. 5,596,259
(6) U.S. Patent No. 6,563,318

Document (1) is discussed in the specification at page 5. Document (2) is discussed at pages 6 and 7. Document (3) is discussed at pages 7 and 8. Document (4) is discussed at pages 5 and 6. The Examiner is directed to these portions of the specification which are believed to provide an explanation of relevance of these documents to the subject application.

In addition, English-language abstracts for cited Japanese documents (1) to (4) are enclosed. The abstracts are also believed to provide an explanation of relevance of these Japanese documents to the subject application.

Documents (5) and (6) are U.S. counterpart applications for documents (1) and (3) respectively, and are believed to provide another explanation of relevance of Japanese documents (1) and (3) to the subject application.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

George K. Tu

Attorney for Applicants

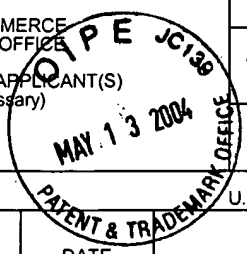
Registration No. 54,334

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FORM PTO 1449 (*modified*)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)




| ATTY DOCKET NO. | APPLICATION NO. |
|---|---|
| 00839.000469. | 10/682,454 |

APPLICANT
**SOICHIRO KAWAKAMI, ET AL.**

| FILING DATE | GROUP |
|---|---|
| October 10, 2003 | N.Y.A. |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 5,596,259 | 01/97 | Mino, et al. | 320 | 21 | |
| | | 6,563,318 | 05/03 | Kawakami, et al. | 324 | 426 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 7-240235 | | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 9-134742 | | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 2002-50410 | | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 2002-142379 | | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|---|---|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Form #62